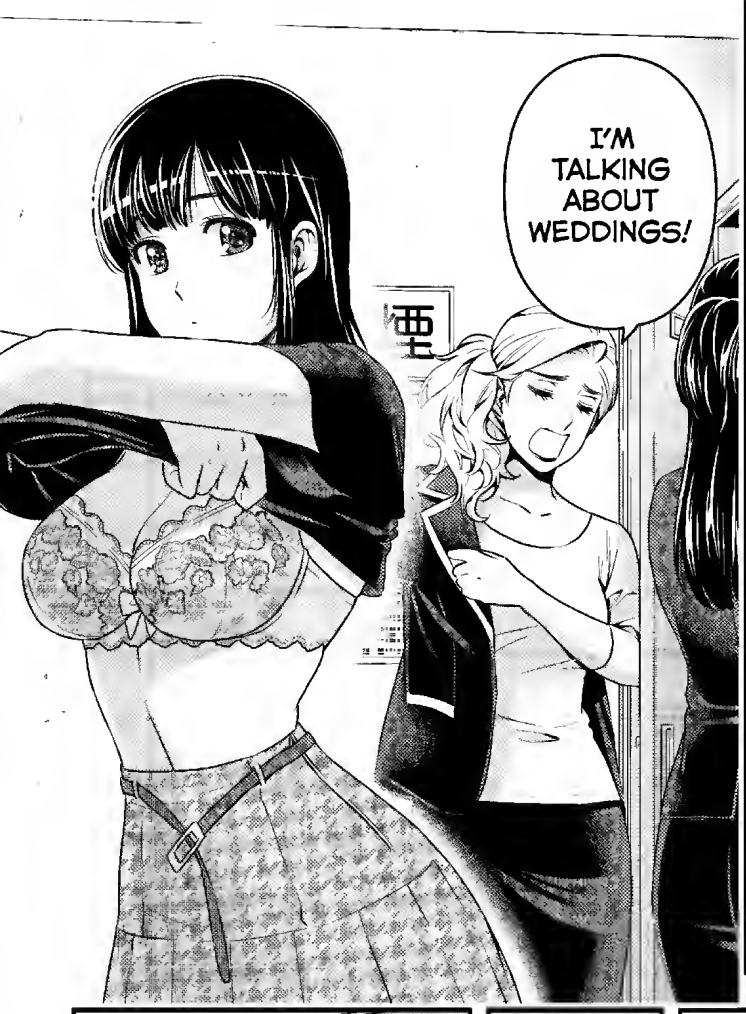
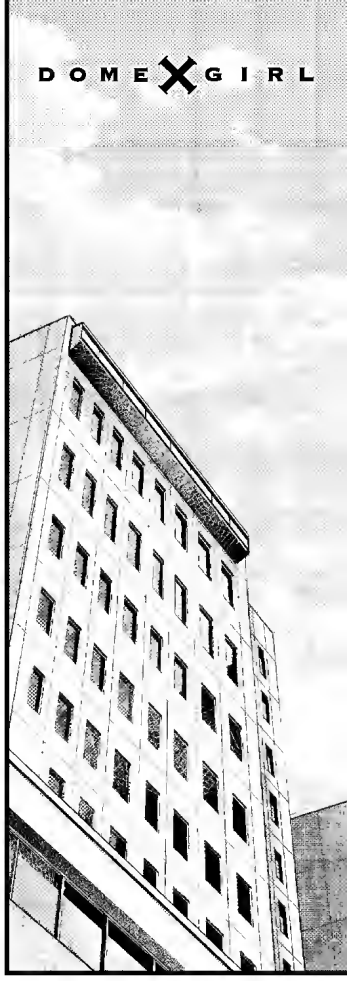
Domestic Girlfriend
kc
KODANSHA COMICS
CHAPTER 173
KEI SASUGA

CHAPTER 173: LIFE DECISIONS

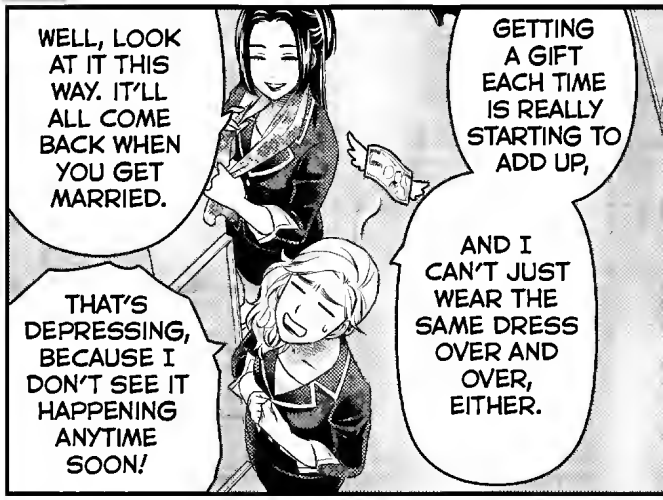
KEI SASUGA


I'M TALKING ABOUT WEDDINGS!

THIS IS THE FIFTH ONE THIS YEAR, YOU KNOW! THE FIFTH!
I'M LOSING MY MIND ...
STAFF ROOM
FIFTH WHAT?



KENGO TANABE
...
Good morning! ☀
Hot morning, isn't it?
A co-worker told me about a good Japanese restaurant yesterday. Would you like to go this evening?
I hear they have good drinks, too.
You said you get off early on Thursdays, right?
Hope to hear back from you soon (^^)

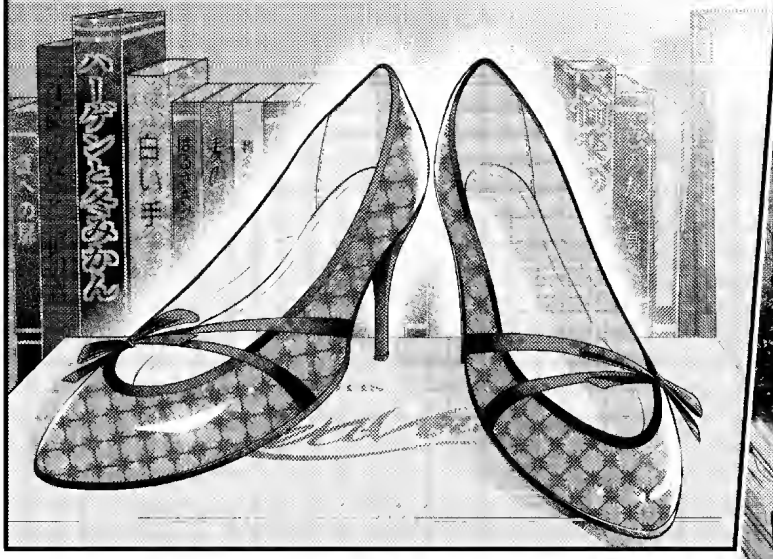

WELL, LOOK AT IT THIS WAY. IT'LL ALL COME BACK WHEN YOU GET MARRIED.
THAT'S DEPRESSING, BECAUSE I DON'T SEE IT HAPPENING ANYTIME SOON!
GETTING A GIFT EACH TIME IS REALLY STARTING TO ADD UP,
AND I CAN'T JUST WEAR THE SAME DRESS OVER AND OVER, EITHER.

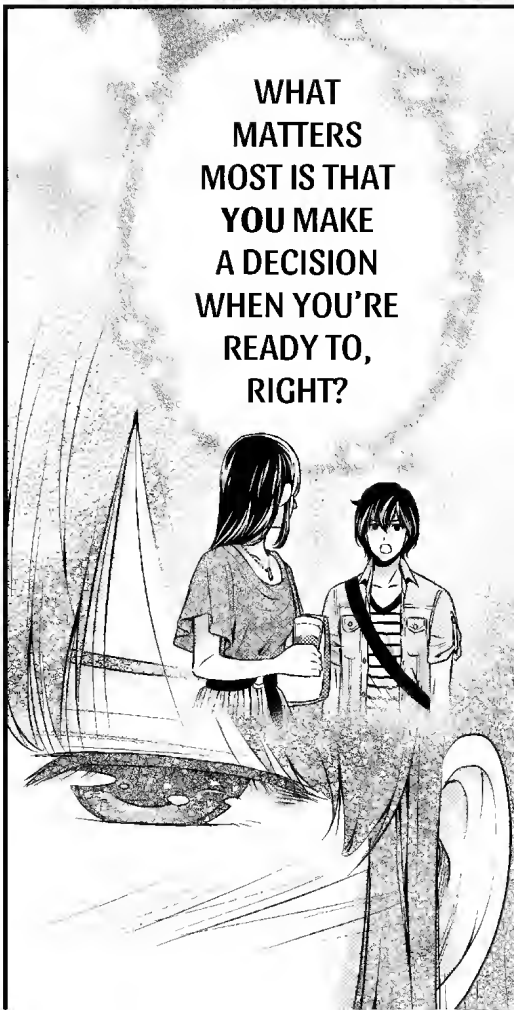
DON'T WORRY, I'M NOT PLANNING ON IT, EITHER!
I'M GONNA GO BROKE AT THIS RATE!
TACHIBANA-CHAN, IF YOU GET MARRIED, PLEASE DON'T MAKE IT THIS YEAR, OKAY?!
DING

THANK GOOD-NESS.
I'M SO GLAD YOU SAID YES.
SANJA
三菜
GLAD TO HEAR IT.
I COULDN'T HELP BUT BE A LITTLE WORRIED, YOU KNOW? "I WONDER WHAT SHE HAS PLANNED." "IS SHE JUST LOOKING FOR AN EXCUSE TO SAY NO?"
NO, THAT'S NOT...
I WAS WORRIED YOU MIGHT NOT LIKE ME BECAUSE YOU TURNED ME DOWN LAST TIME.
HAVE YOU WATCHED THE FIRE-WORKS OR GONE TO ANY FESTIVALS YET THIS SUMMER?
DUM
キ ッ BA
...
OH, RIGHT.

UH...
UM...
I SAW IT ON THE NEWS THE OTHER DAY.
I WAS JUST WONDERING IF YOU WERE INTO THAT KIND OF THING.
HUH?
WE DIDN'T STICK AROUND FOR VERY LONG, THOUGH...
HMM. THAT'S NICE.
ACTUALLY, I RAN INTO MY STEPBROTHER ON THE WAY HOME THE OTHER DAY, AND WE WENT TO WATCH THE FIREWORKS!
I...I LIKE TO GO TO FESTIVALS WITH MY FAMILY!
YES!
...
OH, RIGHT. LET ME GIVE YOU SOMETHING BEFORE I FORGET.
...FOR HAVING A PRETTY SISTER LIKE YOU.
I HAVE TO SAY, I'M A LITTLE JEALOUS OF HIM...
YOUR STEP-BROTHER IS IN COLLEGE, ISN'T HE?
I BET YOU REALLY LOOK LIKE A COUPLE WHEN YOU'RE TOGETHER.

HIGH HEELS.
YOU BROKE YOURS THE OTHER DAY, REMEMBER?
HM?
WHAT'S THIS?
HERE.
I HOPE YOU LIKE THEM.
I NOTICED YOUR OLD PAIR WAS A SIZE 8, SO I GOT YOU ONE IN THE SAME SIZE.
Chris Louboutin
THEIR SHOES ARE FAMOUS!
HUH ?!
W-WAIT, THESE ARE LEA VOUTIN!
BE-SIDES, A WOMAN YOUR AGE DESERVES TO WEAR NICE THINGS.
AND I'LL HAVE TO GO RETURN THEM IF YOU DON'T TAKE THEM.
DON'T MAKE ME BE THE SAD CHUMP WHOSE GIFT GOT REJECT-ED, OKAY?
NO, NO, NO! I CAN'T ACCEPT SOMETHING THIS EX-PENSIVE!
THEY WEREN'T THAT PRICEY.


ハーゲンと冬みかん
白い手


WHAT MATTERS MOST IS THAT YOU MAKE A DECISION WHEN YOU'RE READY TO, RIGHT?

シャラン
JI
NG

WHAT ...
...DO I EVEN WANT?

カラン
TLING
コロ〜ン
JING
EVENING!
喫茶&BAR
SIGN:
CAFÉ & BAR
L'AMANT
居酒屋
大衆酒場

OH, MY GOD, FUMIYA-KUN?! YOU DYED YOUR HAIR?!
THAT I DID. I THOUGHT I'D TRY OUT A MORE LAID-BACK LOOK, SINCE IT'S SUMMER AND ALL.
HA, HA.

フワ
FW
WELCOME, MADAM!
ISHI

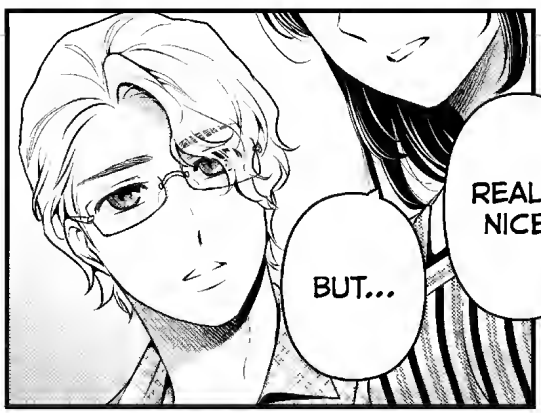
THERE'S SOMEONE HERE YOU HAVEN'T SEEN FOR EVEN LONGER, YOU KNOW.

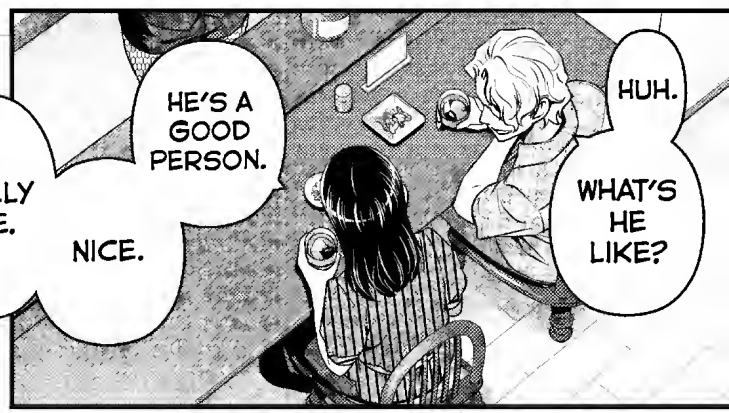
WOW... I DON'T SEE HIM FOR A WHILE AND LOOK WHAT HAPPENS ...
JUST BE HONEST AND SAY YOU WANNA BE POPULAR WITH GIRLS.
FWIP
DYING YOUR HAIR OPENS UP ALL SORTS OF FASHION OPTIONS, Y'KNOW?

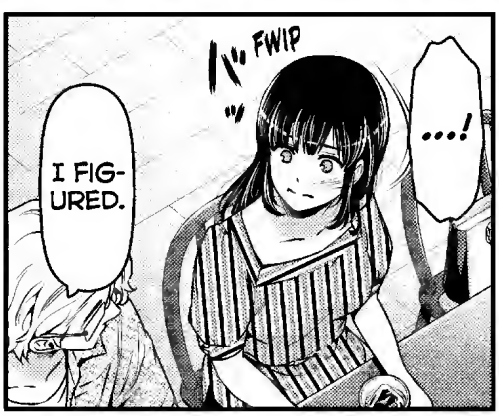
SHU-SAN!
HOW HAVE YOU BEEN, HINA-CHAN?
HEY.
LONG TIME NO SEE.
NOT TOO BAD.
I HEAR YOU FOUND A NEW JOB?
SAME OLD, SAME OLD. I PRACTI-CALLY LIVE IN THE COLLEGE LAB.
HOW HAVE YOU BEEN, SHU-SAN?
YES. I'M WORKING AS A HOTEL RECEPTIONIST. I WANTED A JOB WHERE I CAN USE MY ENGLISH SKILLS.
...SO I'VE BEEN COMING HERE TO VENT TO THE OWNER AND ASK HOW TO DODGE ALL THE NAGGING.
MY PARENTS HAVE BEEN ON MY BACK ABOUT GETTING REMARRIED LATELY...
EVEN PEOPLE WHO'VE BEEN MARRIED BEFORE HAVE TO DEAL WITH THAT, HUH?
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D RUN INTO YOU HERE.
DO YOU COME OFTEN?
JUST ONCE IN A WHILE.

SHE GOT SET UP WITH A GUY RECENTLY.
BY HER MOM.
HMM.
I WOULDN'T SAY I'M BEING "PRES-SURED," BUT...

"EVEN"?
ARE YOU GETTING THAT KIND OF PRES-SURE, TOO, HINA-CHAN?


BUT...


REALLY NICE.
HE'S A GOOD PERSON.
NICE.
HUH.
WHAT'S HE LIKE?

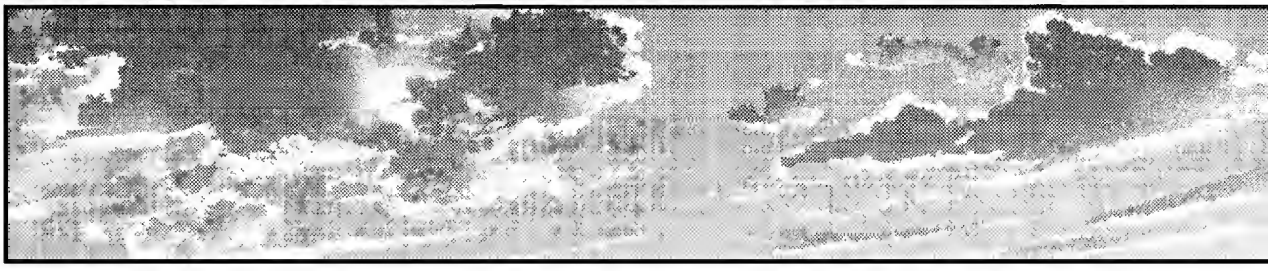

FWIP
I FIG-URED.
...!

YOU LOVED HIM ENOUGH TO GIVE UP YOUR DREAM JOB, AFTER ALL.

NATSUO-KUN...?

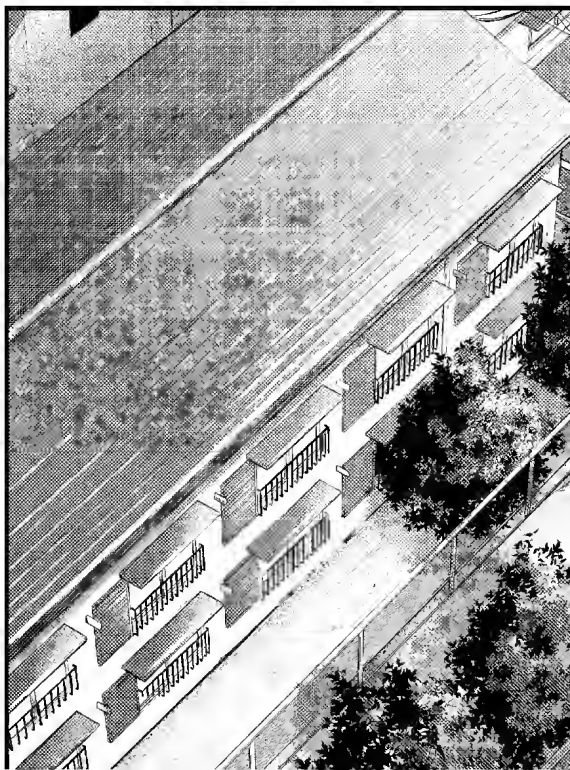
HINA-CHAN.
FROM MY PERSPECTIVE, NATSUO-KUN'S VERY EXISTENCE SEEMED LIKE A CURSE FOLLOWING YOU AROUND WHEREVER YOU WENT.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE ONLY SUFFERING SO MUCH BECAUSE YOUR FEELINGS WERE SO STRONG,
AND THAT BEING RELEASED FROM THEM WOULD EASE THE PAIN.
BUT ...
...I GUESS I WAS WRONG.
AS YOU KNOW,
MY MARRIAGE WASN'T EXACTLY HAPPY.
THINGS WERE ROCKY EVEN BEFORE I MET YOU AGAIN.
PEOPLE MARRY BECAUSE THEY WANT TO BE HAPPY, BUT SOMETIMES, IT JUST DOESN'T WORK OUT.
AND I THINK I KNOW WHY THAT IS NOW.
HINA-CHAN.

YOU'LL NEVER BE HAPPY...
...IF YOU KEEP LYING TO YOURSELF.



YES?

DING DONG
ピンポーン



HINA-NEE!
I WAS WORRIED YOU MIGHT COLLAPSE FROM STARVATION, SO I BROUGHT YOU SOME GROCERIES.
SERI-OUSLY?! THANKS A LOT!
HEY!
HAVE YOU BEEN EATING WELL?
HOW MUCH DO I OWE YOU?
DON'T SWEAT IT. WE'RE FAMILY.
JUST PAY ME BACK THREEFOLD WHEN YOU MAKE IT BIG, OKAY?
THREE-FOLD?
I APPRE-CIATE IT.
THANKS.
HAVE A SEAT. I'LL MAKE SOME COFFEE.
OKAY.
I DON'T HAVE ANY SNACKS, THOUGH. SORRY.
OH! THERE'S SOME ICE CREAM IN THERE, TOO.
GOOD THINK-ING.
ICED COFFEE WOULD BE NICE.
DO YOU HAVE ANY?
YUP. WANT MILK IN YOURS?
YES, PLEASE.

I'LL TAKE MINE BLACK!
WOULD YOU CARE FOR SOME AFTER-DINNER COFFEE, SIR?
COMING RIGHT UP.
WELL, I PROBABLY SHOULDN'T HAVE COME IN THE FIRST PLACE, THEN, HUH?
AH, JEEZ! NO GETTING SENTI-MENTAL!
WHIP
WHIP
WHIP
DO YOU WANT STRAW-BERRY OR CHOCOLATE CHIP?
YOU CAN PICK.
I'LL TAKE CHOCOLATE, THEN.
HERE YOU GO.
THANKS!
I JUST...
...REALLY WANTED TO SEE HIM.
BUT ...
YOU'LL NEVER BE HAPPY IF YOU KEEP LYING TO YOURSELF.
...IT'S ALL BECAUSE SHU-SAN SAID THAT.

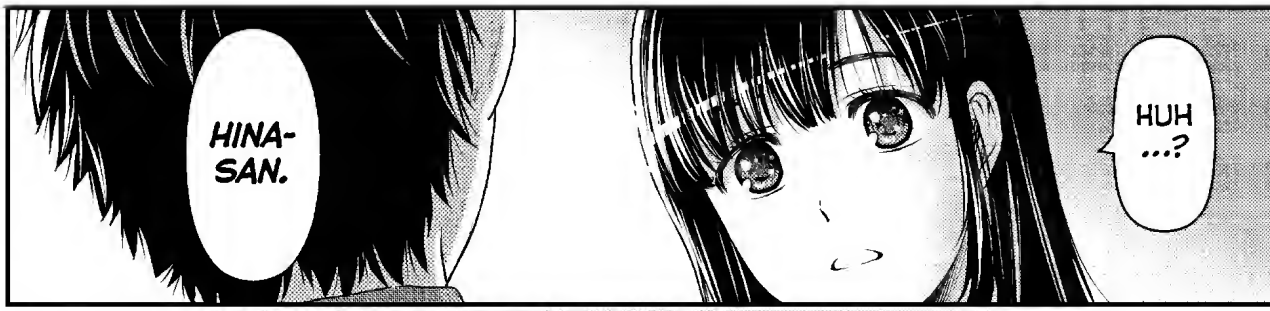
THANKS AGAIN!
AHH!
MAN, THAT'S GOOD!
A SUGAR RUSH IS JUST WHAT MY BRAIN NEEDED.
THERE'S NOTHING LIKE ICE CREAM IN SUMMER, HUH?
AH!
OH, GOD.
I'M LOSING IT...
...OVER SOME-THING SO LITTLE.
HERE COME THE TEARS.
I'M GONNA USE YOUR BATHROOM, OKAY?
PHEW...
THAT WAS TOO CLOSE.
WHAT AM I DOING?
I CAN'T MOVE ON LIKE THIS...

I THINK YOU GOT A MES-SAGE.
カサッ
CHACK
YOUR PHONE WAS RINGING IN YOUR BAG.
KENGO TANABE
Hey!
Are you free tonight?
OH...
MY FRIEND WANTS TO GO DRINKING.

山田不動
I WANTED TO HANG OUT FOR A WHILE, BUT I NEED TO GET GOING.
SORRY... THANKS FOR COFFEE.
Bar Aqua-Gray
Bar Aqua-Gray
ARE YOU SURE I'M NOT BOTHERING YOU?
YOU SEEM KIND OF... DOWN.
OH, NO. I'M FINE...
BUT I'M GLAD YOU DID.
I HONEST-LY WASN'T EXPECTING YOU TO SAY YES, SINCE IT WAS SO SUDDEN,
CHEERS!

...IF YOU AGREED TO COME TONIGHT, I'D ASK YOU.
WHEN I SENT YOU THAT MESSAGE, I TOLD MYSELF...

TO BE HONEST, THIS DATE WAS KIND OF A BIG DEAL FOR ME.
THAT'S GOOD.


HINA-SAN.
HUH ...?

...WITH THE INTENTION OF EVENTUALLY GETTING MARRIED?
...BE WILLING TO GO OUT WITH ME...
WOULD YOU...